

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7, 16 and 19-34 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Re claim 7: the prior art fails to anticipate or render obvious the claimed limitations including "in at least one of the above two conductive layers (5A, 5B), a distance (D4) from the contact regions (4A, 4B) connecting the conductive layers (5A, 5B) and the pads (3Ba, 3Bb) to edges of the pad (3Ba, 3Bb) contacting the fuse body (3A) is 0.25 μm to 0.90 μm ."

Re claim 16: the prior art fails to anticipate or render obvious the claimed limitations including "characterized in that, in at least one of the above two conductive layers (5A, 5B), a width (W3) of the portions of the conductive layers (5A, 5B) including the contact regions (4A, 4B) with the pads (3Ba, 3Bb) is 6 μm to 14 μm ."

Re claim 19: the prior art fails to anticipate or render obvious the claimed limitations including "wherein at least one of the following is present: (a) the width (W3) of said conductive layer (5A) is 6 μm to 14 μm , (b) the distance (D4) between said fuse line (3Aa) and said opening (4A) is 0.25 μm to 0.90 μm , (c) said-the length (L1) of the fuse body (3A) is 1.8 μm to 20 μm ."

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Colleen A. Matthews whose telephone number is (571)272-1667. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne Gurley can be reached on 571-272-1670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/C. A. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 2811

/Lynne A. Gurley/
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